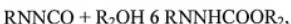


IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph [0004] as follows:

[0004] Polyurethanes are an example of a material from which bowling balls or the outer shells thereof may be formed. Polyurethanes are polymers that are typically produced by reacting a polyisocyanate, sometimes referred to as an "A-side," with a material that includes alcohol groups, which is known in the art as a hydroxyl-containing material and is sometimes referred to as a "B-side" of the polyurethane. Examples of B-side materials that may be used to produce polyurethane include the polyols that are derived from propylene oxide and from trichlorobutylene oxide. In a so-called polycondensation reaction, "polycondensation reaction," where a polymer and water, alcohol, or another simple molecule are the products, the A- and B-side molecules combine to form the polyurethane. The following chemical equation illustrates the basic reaction between the A-side (RNNCO) and the B-side (R₂OH) to form polyurethane:



where R and RN are each hydrocarbons.

Please amend paragraph [0005] as follows:

[0005] In use, bowling balls are subjected to the often objectionable smells of a bowling alley, including cigarette smoke, sweat, and ~~shoe~~ odors. After use, bowling balls are often placed into a bag that includes other items, such as gloves, supports, or braces that are used in bowling, as well as bowling shoes. Thus, even when stored, bowling balls are often exposed to somewhat objectionable odors. Further, bowling bags are sometimes stored in the trunks of cars, which may carry other undesirable smells.

Please amend paragraph [0013] as follows:

[0013] Upon adequate curing of the nonporous, hard rubber or rubber-like material, so-called so-called "finishing" processes may be conducted to further define the article of manufacture from the scented, substantially nonporous, hard rubber or rubber-like material.

Please amend paragraph [0023] as follows:

[0023] In FIG. 1, a mixture 16, including a quantity of a liquid polyol 10, which is a precursor material that is also referred to herein as a “B-side” of the polyurethane, and a quantity of a fragrance 12, is formed. Mixture 16 may also include a quantity of pigment 14.

Please amend paragraph [0024] as follows:

[0024] Liquid polyol 10 may be any known type of liquid polyol (e.g., a polyester polyol, a polyether polyol, etc.) that is useful in forming polyurethane. Preferably, liquid polyol 10 is suitable for use in forming substantially rigid, nonporous polyurethane, such as is used in forming bowling balls and other solid articles of manufacture. For example, the liquid polyol available from HK Research, Inc. of Hickory, North Carolina, as product no. VCB 1275 may be used in a method incorporating teachings of the present invention to form polyurethane having the desired characteristics.

Please amend paragraph [0036] as follows:

[0036] When final polymer blend 30 has been introduced into cavities 36 of molds 32, isocyanate 22 and polyol 10 are permitted to polymerize, or cure, solidify, or gel, forming an article of manufacture 40 within each mold cavity 36 of mold 32. For example, final polymer blend 30 may be permitted to gel for about two minutes or longer before article of manufacture 40 is removed therefrom, as depicted in FIG. 5. The polymerization reaction between isocyanate 22 and polyol 10 of final polymer blend 30 is exothermic, or heat generating. This exothermic reaction may cause final polymer blend 30 and mold 32 to be heated to temperatures as high as about 300° F or greater.

Please amend paragraph [0040] as follows:

[0040] Although FIG. 6 depicts the finished article of manufacture 40 as being a bowling ball, the present invention includes other scented articles of manufacture. Moreover, while the method of the present invention has been described in terms of forming a polyurethane article of

manufacture 40, scented, substantially nonporous articles of manufacture 40 incorporating teachings of the present invention may also be formed from different types of materials, as well as by alternative methods. When article of manufacture 40 is a bowling ball, it may have a hardness, or durometer, of about 72 Shore D to about 77 Shore D. Of course, other types of articles of manufacture may have different hardnesses.